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#2THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re United States Patent Application of:****Applicant(s):** KLEE, et al**Application No.:** 10/507,924**Int'l Filing Date:** September 16, 2004**Priority Date:** March 16, 2002**Title:** DEPOSITION METHOD FOR  
ENDOPROSTHESES PROVIDED  
FOR CONSTANTLY  
ADMINISTERING MEDICAMENTS**Docket No.:** 4121-173**Examiner:** Not yet assigned**Art Unit:** Not yet assigned**Customer No.:**

23448

FIRST CLASS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on the date specified, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, and First Class Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8.

  
Joanna JoslynDecember 28, 2004  
Date of MailingINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

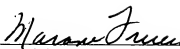
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A. One copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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PTO/SB/08A (01-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<p align="center"><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p align="center">Sheet 1 of 2</p>	<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
	Application Number	10/507,924
	Filing Date	September 16, 2004
	First Named Inventor	KLEE, et al.
	Art Unit	Unassigned
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
	Attorney Docket Number	4121-173

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	US-6,231,600 B1		05-15-2001	Zhong, Sheng-ping
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Examiner signature		Date Considered	
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\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<sup>1</sup> All the foreign patents and publications that are not written in English language are accompanied by their respective English abstracts, which constitute concise explanation of relevance of the non-English patents and publications that satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i), according to MPEP 609 III A(3).

